

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-23. (Canceled).

24. (Currently Amended) A terrain model element ~~which~~comprising:

~~_____~~ a base of a foamed plastics material having adhered on an upper face thereof a shaped layer providing the modelling terrain shape, which is comprised substantially of latex.

25. (Currently Amended) The terrain model element ~~as in claim 24 of claim 24,~~ wherein the base is sheet-like.

26. (Currently Amended) The terrain model element ~~as in claim 24, further~~ ~~characterised in that of claim 24, wherein~~ the foamed plastics material is a flexible foam.

27. (Currently Amended) The terrain model element ~~as in claim 24, further~~ ~~characterised in that of claim 24, wherein~~ the foamed plastics material adheres to the latex by reason of being directly molded onto the latex layer.

28. (Currently Amended) The terrain model element ~~as in claim 24, further~~ ~~characterised in that of claim 24, wherein~~ the shaped layer is molded so as to be within a range of thickness, at least substantially through the extent of the layer, of between 1 millimetre and 10 millimetres.

29. (Currently Amended) The terrain model element ~~as in claim 27, further~~ ~~characterised in that of claim 27, wherein~~ the foamed plastics material fills or substantially fills an otherwise open cavity shape of an underneath surface of the shaped latex layer.

30. (Currently Amended) The terrain model element ~~as in claim 25, further~~ ~~characterised in that of claim 25, wherein~~ the shaped layer of latex is formed so that it includes parts that are adhering to an upper surface of the base material, and other parts which

are hollow and which therefore have a lowermost surface which is above and separate from an uppermost surface of the base material.

31. (Currently Amended) The terrain model element ~~as in claim 24, further characterised in that of claim 24, wherein~~ the latex layer is formed and cured in a mold that will absorb moisture from the latex applied thereto.

32. (Currently Amended) The terrain model element ~~as in claim 31, further characterised in that of claim 31, wherein~~ the mold is formed from Plaster of Paris, ~~Paris, as it is implicitly porous and can absorb a significant amount of water.~~

33. (Currently Amended) The terrain model element ~~as in claim 24, further characterised in that of claim 24, wherein~~ there is a coating on an upper surface of the shaped layer which is an acrylic based paint.

34. (Currently Amended) The terrain model element ~~as in claim 24, further characterised in that of claim 24, wherein~~ the base unit is made from a urethane based foam, foamed.

35. (Currently Amended) A combination of terrain model elements including elements, comprising:

_____ at least two terrain model elements, which are located one alongside another to provide a continuous terrain appearance, and where each of the elements is as described in claim 24.

36. (Currently Amended) The terrain model element ~~as in claim 24, further characterised in that of claim 24, wherein~~ the upper latex layer has the plastics material molded and foamed directly on to the back or lower surface of the shaped layer.

37. (Currently Amended) The terrain model element ~~as in claim 36 further characterised in that of claim 36, wherein~~ the foamed plastics material when foamed and cured, remains flexible.

38. (Currently Amended) The terrain model element as in claim 24, further characterised in that of claim 24, wherein the shaped layer includes an undercut shape.

39. (Currently Amended) The terrain model element as in claim 24, further characterised in that of claim 24, wherein the element has a plan that is hexagonal in shape.

40. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacture of a terrain model element which includes the steps of element, the method comprising the steps of:

_____ forming a mold for an upper shaped layer of the element, which is adapted to effect a moisture reducing effect, effect;

_____ applying liquid latex to the mold and leaving this so that at least some of the latex closest to the mold surface is caused to dry and effect thereby a thin layer of solidified latex;

_____ pouring out from the mold any excess liquid latex; and

_____ then adhering a backing to the shaped upper layer of latex, which is of a foamed flexible plastics material.

41. (Currently Amended) The method of manufacture of a terrain model element as in claim 40 further including the steps of claim 40, further comprising the step of effecting the backing by directly inserting catalyzed and foaming flexible plastic monomer into a cavity of the shaped layer.

42. (Currently Amended) The method of manufacture of a terrain model element as in the claim 24, further characterised in that of claim 42, wherein the mold is coated with a dehydrating liquid before the liquid latex is applied.

43. (Currently Amended) The method of manufacture of a terrain model element as in claim 42 further characterised in that of claim 42, wherein the dehydrating liquid includes alcohol.

44. (Currently Amended) The method of manufacture of a ~~terrain model element~~
~~as in claim 24, further characterised in that claim 24, wherein~~ the liquid latex is applied and
left in the mold until a solidified layer of between 1 mm and 10 mm in thickness is formed,
after which the liquid remaining is drained off.

45. (Previously Presented) A terrain model element produced using the method of
claim 40.